

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2020

The Honorable Wilbur Ross
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20230-0001

Dear Secretary Ross:

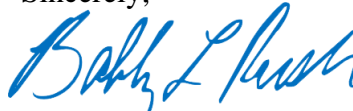
As you know, the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has a unique mission that focuses on an often-overlooked subset of the population. As such, it plays an important role in promoting minority-owned businesses across the United States. That is why we were glad to support the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (Public Law 116-136), which included a \$10 million appropriation for the MBDA.

Unfortunately, however, there is a lack of sufficient information regarding how the MBDA will use this money. Coupled with the unprecedented time we find ourselves in, it is important, now more than ever, that Members of Congress have the latest information and an understanding of how the agencies of the United States Government are functioning and what more can be done to support their missions.

Given that Congress has appropriated this money, we think it is important that we, as a body, have the information needed to ensure that it is being used consistent with Congressional intent. Therefore, we would like to request a briefing by Director Henry Childs II, or the appropriate senior staffer at MBDA, regarding how the Agency will use the \$10 million as well as the projected timeline for accessing these funds.

Thank you for the consideration of this request. Should you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



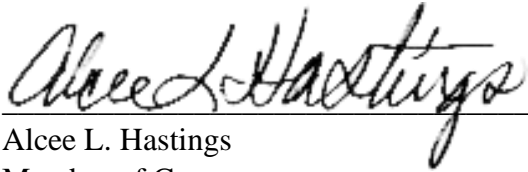
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

/s/

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Michael F. Doyle
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



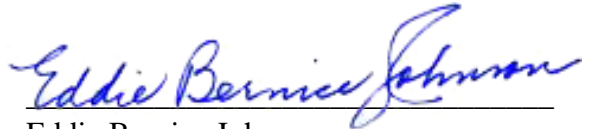
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

/s/

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



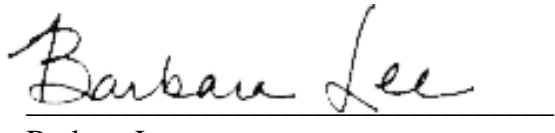
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



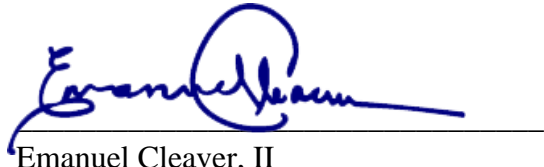
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

/s/

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
Member of Congress



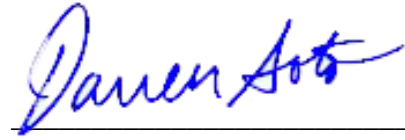
Karen Bass
Member of Congress



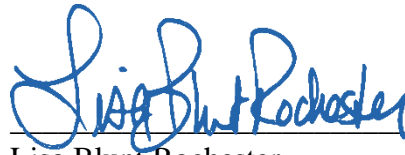
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



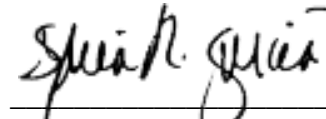
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. García
Member of Congress

/s/

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

cc:

Mr. Henry Childs II
Director, Minority Business Development Agency